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UNCORRECTED PROOF OF THE JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.

Thursday, December 29, 2011.

Met at four minutes past eleven o'clock A.M. (Mr. Petrucci in the Chair) (having been appointed by the President, under authority conferred by Senate Rule 4, to perform the duties of the Chair).

The Chair (Mr. Petrucci), members, guests and staff then recited the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Distinguished Guests.

There being no objection, the Chair (Mr. Petrucci) introduced, in the rear of the Chamber, a Boy Scout troop from Taunton. They were accompanied by Representative O'Connell. The Senate welcomed them with applause and they withdrew from the Chamber.

Communication.

A communication from the Honorable Bruce E. Tarr, Senate Minority Leader, announcing the appointment of Senator Robert L. Hedlund to the Special Commission established (pursuant to Chapter 219 of the Acts of 2011) to make an investigation and study on the use of electronic benefit transfer (EBT) cards,-- **was placed on file.**

PAPER FROM THE HOUSE

A petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3833) of William M. Straus (by vote of the town) for legislation to authorize the town of Mattapoisett to place a municipal fee on aquaculture licenses,-- **was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.**

Report of a Committee.

By Mr. Brewer, for the committee on Ways and Means, that the House Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Debra Callejas, an employee of the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development, Department of Industrial Accidents (House, No. 3733),-- ought to pass, with an amendment striking out, in lines 2 and 3, the words "executive office of labor and workforce development,"; and by striking out the title, and inserting in place thereof the following title:- "An Act establishing a sick leave bank for Debra Callejas, an employee of the Department of Industrial Accidents".

There being no objection, the rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Tarr, and the bill was read a second time and was amended, as recommended by the committee on Ways and Means.

The bill, as amended, was then ordered to a third reading, read a third time and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence, with the amendment.

Sent to the House for concurrence in the amendment.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

The Senate Bill authorizing Holyoke Community College to borrow funds for the acquisition and renovation of certain real property in the city of Holyoke (Senate, No. 1901),-- **came from the House, passed to be engrossed, in concurrence, with an amendment striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text of House document numbered 3777.**

The rules were suspended, on motion of Mr. Timilty, and the House amendment was adopted, in concurrence.

House Order.

The following House Order (approved by the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently) was considered forthwith and adopted in concurrence, as follows, to wit:

Ordered, That, notwithstanding the provisions of Joint Rule 12B, the residue of the message from His Excellency the Governor submitting recommendations for making appropriations for the fiscal year 2012 to provide for supplementing certain existing appropriations and for certain other activities and projects (House, No. 3761), or any reports based, in whole or in part, on the residue of said message shall continue to exist upon termination of the first annual session of the General Court.

Engrossed Bill.

An engrossed Bill relative to creditable service for retirement to non-working members of the reserve police force in the city of Malden (see House, No. 3762) (which originated in the House), having been certified by the Senate Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, was passed to be enacted and signed by the Acting President (Mr. Petruccelli) and laid before the Governor for his approbation.

Order Adopted.

On motion of Mr. Tarr,--

Ordered, That when the Senate adjourns today, it adjourn to meet again on Tuesday next at eleven o'clock A.M., and that the Clerk be directed to dispense with the printing of a calendar.

Adjournment in Memory of Methuen Firefighter Robert "Rob" George.

The Senator from Essex, Mr. Baddour, requested that when the Senate adjourns today, it adjourn in memory of Methuen Firefighter Robert "Rob" George.

Methuen Firefighter Robert "Rob" George passed away suddenly on December 21, 2011, at the age of 46.

Rob was born in Methuen, where he lived most of life, and attended schools in Methuen and Lawrence. He was a licensed electrician and contractor, co-owner of Labrador Property Management, and a Methuen firefighter for 16 years.

He was a member of the International Association of Fire Fighters and he was so proud to be in the brotherhood of firefighters and loved them all like his own brothers. He loved boating and his camp on Sebago Lake in Maine. Rob was a hard worker and loved being with his family and friends. Rob was also anxiously awaiting the arrival of his first two grandchildren.

Rob is survived by his wife of 25 years, Sandra L. (Runions) George of Methuen; his daughter, Amanda George and her significant other, Geoff Bettencourt of Methuen; his son, Nicholas George and his significant other Kerri Walton of Methuen; his parents, Lee and Justin Hart of Groveland; sisters and brother, Kelley Liversidge of Methuen, Jason and Joanne George of Dracut and Samantha and Jared Steeves of Brookline; mother and father-in-law, Barbara and Robert Tondi of Methuen; sister and brother-in-law, Lori and Robert Scarelli of Methuen, his dog and best friend, Alex; and several beloved nieces and nephews.

Accordingly, as a mark of respect to the memory of Methuen Firefighter Robert "Rob" George, at twenty-eight minutes past eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Tarr, the Senate adjourned to meet again on Tuesday next at eleven o'clock A.M.